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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 1025**
Christian GUELLY et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2005_0070A
Serial No. 10/528,031 : Group Art Unit 1642
Filed March 16, 2005 : Examiner Sean E. Aeder

POLYPEPTIDES AND NUCLEIC ACIDS : **Mail Stop: Amendment**
ENCODING THESE AND THEIR USE FOR
THE PREVENTION, DIAGNOSIS OR
TREATMENT OF LIVER DISORDERS AND
EPITHELIAL CANCER

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is responsive to the Official Action dated April 10, 2006.

The Official Action constitutes a requirement for restriction and an election of species.

Applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group V, claims 24-26 and 34-46, as specifically drawn to the special technical feature of a method of determining differential expression of a polynucleotide or diagnosis wherein a polynucleotide is identified.

As to the species requirement, Applicants elect (a) a single species of SEQ ID No. 11 (b) species of ailments: hepatocellular carcinoma (c) method of detecting: PCR (d) method of comparing: solid-phase screening methods (e) species of a sample from a patient: blood (f) a corresponding species from the reference samples: blood.

Following claims read on the elected species:

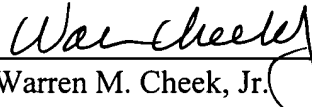
- SEQ ID No. 11: All claims 24-26 and 34-46
- Hepatocellular carcinoma: All claims 24, 25 and 34-45

- PCR: All claims
- Solid-phase screening methods: All claims
- Blood (species if a patient sample): All claims
- Blood (species from the reference sample): All claims

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Christian GUELLY et al.

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